

Dr. Peterson

Georgia Tech-Lorraine Faculty/Student Lunch

12:30 p.m. Monday, May 26, 2014, Georgia Tech-Lorraine, Metz, France

- Introduce members of the Georgia Tech Delegation — Rafael Bras, Steve Cross, Gary May, Bill Wepfer, Joe Bankoff, Stephen Fleming, Oliver Brand, Marta Garcia.
- During the past two decades, Georgia Tech has grown into one of the world's most globalized technological universities, with collaborations in more than 80 countries, and institutional partnerships in more than 30 countries. We have a full campus in France, and global centers in China, Singapore, Costa Rica, and Panama.
- 46 percent of our undergraduate students have an international experience by graduation: Study abroad, work abroad, global internships, or service abroad in 67 countries! Five-thousand Georgia Tech students take one or more foreign languages, even though it is not required for most majors.
- Importance of global experience for students for personal and professional growth. Strategic plan (goal 4): "Expand our global footprint to ensure that we are graduating good global citizens."
- Today is Memorial Day. It is fitting to announce that all 240 Georgia Tech-Lorraine students will participate in the D-Day celebration on June 6 in Normandy. This year marks the 70th anniversary of D-Day, and President Obama will attend. It will be an unforgettable experience for our students.
- GTL's success story:
 - Started in 1990 with only five students pursuing a MS in ECE. Today, more than 600 students study at GTL every year, the largest concentration in Europe of U.S. engineering students;
 - Today an active research program with significant industry funding, through a partnership with CNRS. We just signed in Paris on Friday the renewal agreement of this international lab.

- Great network of alumni — We had a celebration event on the Champs Elysées in Paris on Friday evening, with more than 200 alumni.
- And this afternoon, the official inauguration of the Lafayette Institute, the new building next door, which is an innovation center with applied R&D in optoelectronics.
- The GTL model works! GTL is truly part of the Georgia Tech global ecosystem.
- Opening of Renovated Student Lounge at GTL: Importance of student space for social and work interactions — like Clough Commons.